Abstract

An arrangement to accomplish authentication of end-users (1) and end-points (1) in a packet based network, which includes components that support all or parts of different versions of the H.323 recommended standard, be proposed. Authentication is accomplished by means of an authentication proxy (2), which will support security profiles supported by one or more associated gatekeepers (3). Provision of end-user (1) and end-point information for an authentication proxy (2) may be accomplished by means of standard non-proprietary communication and protocol such as http or https and a simple html form, an applet or a servlet respectively, and for a gatekeeper (3) by means of a RAS message such as gatekeeper request (GRQ).

Abbreviation / Term	Description
Hashing	Performing hashing means to code a text
	or data according to a specific algorithm.
	The hashed text or data can only de
	decoded by entities that knows the original
	hashing function
Proxy	By proxy is meant a function that is not
	taking active part (not an originating or
	terminating signalling or media entity) in
	any communication, the proxy is only
	helping out by doing small enhancements
	or other functions.
Endpoint	By endpoint is meant an entity that either
	originates or terminates signalling (H.323)
	and media (RTP/RTCP)
RTP	Real Time Protocol as described in RFC
	1889
RTCP	Real Time Control Protocol, described in
	RFC 1889
End-user	The person that uses the End-point.
Authentication	The procedure to check the identity of
	end-users. Unlike a login procedure, which
	is combined with a logout, authentication
	is a one step function
SSL	Secure Socket Layer
RAS	Registration, Admission and Signalling
Security profile	A security profile defines which data
	should be hashed, and according to which
	function the data should be hashed.
Applet	An applet is a program that is transferred
	from a server to an end-user terminal (e.g.
	a computer) and executed at the end-user
	terminal.
Http	Hyprt Text Transport Protocol
Firewall	An entity that is placed between a Local
	network and the outside network. The
	main object for the firewall is to prevent
	certain types of traffic to pass from the
	outside network to the inside.